

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

AUTHORIZING STATUES IN CAPITOL FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND TERRITORIES

SPEECH OF

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 15, 2010

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Capitol features statues from every State in our Union—statues that honor some of the most memorable and influential people in America's history. The people of the District of Columbia are part of our Union, as well: they pay federal taxes, vote in presidential elections, and share citizenship with us. But when it comes to seeing the District's most notable citizens honored here in the Capitol, in their own city, the people of Washington, DC have again been left out. That needs to change.

This bill would give the people of the District of Columbia—along with the people of the territories of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands—their due in the U.S. Capitol. I believe, in fact, that the District of Columbia deserves two statues, just like any state; but failing that, I believe that some recognition is better than none.

The people of the District of Columbia have made remarkable contributions to America's history, its culture, and its ongoing work to guarantee equal rights to all—and it's time that those contributions are recognized here in the heart of our democracy. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING BRAD ABORN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Brad Aborn upon his retirement as the Mariposa County Supervisor for District 1.

Mr. Aborn has served on the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors since January 2007. During his time on the Board, Mr. Aborn worked tirelessly to serve Mariposa County. He was involved in a number of County projects, including: the Yosemite West Community Plan, the SilverTip Resort project amended site plan application, the new Human Services facility, acquisition of new fire engines and water tenders, funding for 3 new fire stations, obtaining a Fixed Base Operator to oversee the Mariposa/Yosemite Airport, construction of the Red Cloud Library, improvements for Midpines Park, Airport improvement projects, the Seventh Day Adventist Camp project, fuel load reduction projects, road maintenance projects, Agri-nature and Agri-tourism policy, Williamson Act/historical parcels, and the AB 885 statewide issue re-

garding well and septic system inspections. Mr. Aborn also served as the Board's chair in 2009.

Besides his work on the Board, Mr. Aborn has served the County in a number of other ways. He was the chair of the Local Transportation Commission and the vice president and then president of the Mariposa County Public Financing Corporation.

Mr. Aborn is a dedicated patriot and family man. Before joining the Board, he served in the military for 24 years, first on active duty and then in the reserves. Brad, his wife Irene and their three children now spend their time on the Flying A Ranch, where they breed and raise champion Arabian horses.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Brad Aborn for his dedicated service to the people of Mariposa County. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Aborn many years of continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF KAREN LADD

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Karen Ladd for her outstanding contributions to Arkansas students. Karen's efforts in the classroom earned her the highest recognition our Nation's kindergarten through 12th grade mathematics and science teachers may receive for outstanding teaching, the Presidential Awards for Excellence for Mathematics and Science Teaching.

A Chemistry, Advanced Placement Chemistry, and Physics teacher at Nettleton High School, in Jonesboro, Arkansas, Karen exemplifies what it means to be an outstanding educator. Teaching for 33 years, Karen constantly works to challenge her students to succeed, receiving many classroom grants to provide her students with additional resources.

Karen's teaching is held in high regard and her work inspires her colleagues to do their best to encourage further development in the classroom. Her leadership has helped teachers in her region through the Constructing Physics Understanding and Modeling Physics workshops as well as mentoring other teachers. Karen is working to improve science education and help other teachers use innovative methods in the classroom.

I would like to offer my appreciation for the work of Karen Ladd and her determination to provide her students with the best science education as we work to maintain America's global competitiveness in science.

CALPERS DETAILS SEVERAL KEY WAYS THE HEALTH REFORM LAW IS HELPING THEIR MEMBERS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise to share a letter written to the Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius last week. In this letter, copied below, the CEO for the California Public Employees Retirement System, CalPERS, details several key ways the health reform law is already helping their members.

CalPERS is the largest non-federal purchaser of health benefits in the country outside of the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, FEHBP. They highlight expanded coverage for young adults, removal of lifetime limits on benefits, and assistance with the costs of retiree health benefits as three key ways reform is already making a difference.

Republicans refuse to look at the benefits of health reform and are continuing to insist they will "repeal ObamaCare."

President Obama should be proud to have the right wing label health reform with his name. As this CalPERS example shows, health reform is expanding and improving health coverage already. As time moves forward, the benefits to working families, small businesses, and large companies only increase.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, CALPERS,
Sacramento, CA, December 10, 2010.

Hon. Kathleen Sebelius,
Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY SEBELIUS: As the nation's largest non-federal purchaser of health care, the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) has a keen interest in national health care reform. From the beginning, CalPERS supported the reform necessary to contain costs for employers and their employees while maintaining quality health care.

Many health care elements we have championed, such as guaranteed issue policies; eliminating co-pays for preventive services; bans on pre-existing conditions; stabilizing health premiums; supporting innovative delivery system reforms; and patient protection against medical bankruptcies are now major components of health care reform.

We believe that key elements of national health care reform represent a fundamental and positive shift in the way health care will be purchased and delivered in the United States. Together, they will dramatically shape the future of health care in our country and ultimately benefit everyone.

During our recent open enrollment period, CalPERS emphasized the benefits of many health care reform provisions—including extension of dependent coverage, elimination of lifetime limits, and the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program. We are writing to share some of our implementation successes.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.